



# Pedro Nava

Assembly Member

REPRESENTING ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 35



[www.assembly.ca.gov/nava](http://www.assembly.ca.gov/nava)

APRIL 2008

## Assemblymember Nava's Comprehensive Oil Spill Prevention and Response Legislation Will Make Serial Polluters Pay

### Serial Spillers Forced To Post Bond

**Sacramento** - After visiting the site of Greka's December 7<sup>th</sup> spill, working through the Holidays, and holding an informational briefing on January 4<sup>th</sup>, Assemblymember Nava determined that the state's regulatory agencies lacked authority to keep our communities safe from serial polluters. He listened and he is eager to deliver.

Nava said, "As a former deputy district attorney, I know it is imperative that state authorities have all the necessary tools to pursue serial polluters in California. The Greka situation has been a problem in Santa Barbara County for almost a decade. It is unacceptable that the most egregious violators such as Greka Energy can pollute for years and not be held accountable."



*Nava's legislation would punish serial polluters and prevent spills by strengthening the authority of regulatory agencies.*

### Prevent Spills

Nava's AB 1960 will expand the Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources' (DOGGR) oversight authority over oil facilities. The measure authorizes DOGGR to require "life-of-facility" bonding for operators with histories of negligence. Funds from the bonds could be used to ensure proper maintenance and decommissioning of facilities.

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## Officer Chamberlain Woman of the Year for Outstanding Contributions to the Santa Barbara Community



*Officer Chamberlain receives recognition as Woman of the Year from Assemblymember Nava and Assembly Speaker-Elect Karen Bass on the Assembly Floor.*

**Santa Barbara** – Assemblymember Nava presented Officer Anita Chamberlain with a resolution honoring her as the 35<sup>th</sup> Assembly District Woman of the Year.

"Anita Chamberlain represents hope, compassion and courage," said Nava. "Her commitment to the community and its youth is admirable. She has touched many lives through her work as a police officer and volunteer for different organizations. She is really making a difference and Santa Barbara is lucky to have her. I am honored to recognize her."

Officer Chamberlain's current assignment is D.A.R.E. Officer and is singlehandedly responsible for the D.A.R.E. curriculum at 13 schools, teaching currently 17 classes a week, which means over 850 D.A.R.E. graduates every year.

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### **Improve Inland Spill Response and Enforcement**

AB 2912 co-authored with Assemblymember Wolk, improves inland oil spill response and enforcement. Inland spills in California occur three times as often as marine spills and represent a substantially larger volume of pollution, but there is less funding and personnel available to respond to these spills. AB 2912 will address these shortcomings by empowering the Department of Fish and Game's Office of Spill Prevention and Response (OSPR) to develop new funding for response and cleanup of inland oil spills. The bill also strengthens enforcement.

Fines and penalties for inland spills will be increased to the same level as marine spills. The Department of Fish and Game will also be able to increase the penalties depending on the operator's history of offenses.

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Officer Chamberlain is a 22-year veteran of the Santa Barbara Police Department (SBPD). She "hit the streets" as a police officer in 1987 and has worked every division in the police department spending most of her career on patrol working the night shift. She became an expert at handling domestic violence cases and sexual assault investigations and her thorough investigations, together with her compassion, gained recognition from the Santa Barbara Rape Crisis Center and Santa Barbara District Attorney Victim/Witness Office.

Embracing the SBPD's "community oriented policing" philosophy, Officer Chamberlain has worked as a Beat Coordinator with residents to answer long term neighborhood problems and quality of life issues. She has been involved with the Police Activities League programs for at-risk youth.

### **Making a Difference**

*There are many wonderful people and organizations that impact the 35th Assembly District. From time to time, we will profile them in the feature "Making a Difference".*

**Santa Barbara** - Bob Handy of Santa Barbara, who currently serves as Chair of Veterans United for Truth, Inc., will be recognized for his service by Assemblymember Pedro Nava at a statewide event in early May. Handy served his country honorably for 30 years in the U.S. Navy until his retirement in 1970 as a Chief Hospital Corpsman.

"I am so pleased to honor Bob Handy as a Veteran from the 35<sup>th</sup> district who has served Santa Barbara County, the State of California, and the United States with both his military service and community involvement," said Nava.

Handy's passion for giving a voice to veterans led him to start the Veterans Caucus of the California Democratic Party, where he now serves as Chair. In addition to his activities representing veterans, Handy also serves as Region 10 Director with the California Democratic Party, and a volunteer with the American Red Cross.

Handy will be honored at the Veterans Recognition Luncheon hosted by the Assembly Committee on Veterans Affairs and the California State Commanders Veterans Council in Sacramento on May 7<sup>th</sup>. Each Assemblymember from across the state is asked to honor a veteran in his or her district that has significantly contributed to their community.



*Bob Handy: A tireless advocate in the community.*

Photo credit: Jim Hensley

## Nava Delivers Over \$280 million in Transportation Dollars to Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties

**Sacramento** – As Chair of the Assembly Transportation Committee, Assemblymember Nava helped secure close to \$300 million dollars in transportation funding for Santa Barbara and Ventura County.

“These transportation projects will create jobs, reduce congestion, make roadways safer, and improve the quality of life in our communities, said Nava.

The monies are allocated to the following transportation projects in Santa Barbara and Ventura County:

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>\$131.6 million</b>      | <b>Corridor Mobility Improvement Account</b><br>Widen State Route 101 to 6 lanes to reduce traffic congestion and improve traffic operations and safety.  |
| <b>\$30.5 million</b>       | <b>Trade Corridor Improvement Fund</b><br><b>Rice Avenue Interchange Upgrade and Expansion:</b><br>Make needed improvements and upgrade and expansion of the U.S. 101 Rice Avenue interchange.  |
| <b>\$80 million</b>         | <b>State Transportation Improvement Plan</b><br>City of Santa Barbara, for Route 101 from Cabrillo/Hot Springs Road to Milpas Bridge. Construct operational improvements, including adding auxiliary lanes, closing median ramps, and constructing a roundabout.          |
| <b>\$1.8 million</b>        | <b>State Highway Operation and Protection Program (SHOPP):</b><br>In the cities of Oxnard and Ventura, from Route 232 to Johnson Drive at Santa Clara River Bridge. Highway upgrades– plant 23.5 acres to improve sight distance and restore appearance of the landscape. |
| <b>\$5.1 million</b>        | Near Buellton, north of Route 1 to south of Route 246. Construct 2.6 centerline miles of concrete median barriers to reduce cross median collisions.  |
| <b>\$975,000</b>            | Near Goleta, west of El Capitan State Park. Replace failed culvert to prevent roadway loss.   |
| <b>\$22.5 million</b>       | Near Cuyama, east of Cottonwood Canyon Road to east of Cuyama River. Rehabilitate 31.1 lane miles by widening lanes, shoulders, and two bridges.  |
| <b>\$5.1 million</b>        | Near Buellton, north of Route 1 to south of Route 246. Construct 2.6 centerline miles of concrete median barriers to reduce cross median collisions.  |
| <b>\$2.5 million</b>        | In the cities of Ventura, Santa Paula, and Fillmore, at various locations. Upgrade metal beam guard rail and crash cushions at 40 locations to reduce the number and severity of collisions.  |
| <b>\$3 million</b>          | <b>Agriculture Worker Transportation Program:</b><br><b>Santa Barbara County</b>  |
| <b>\$3 million</b>          | <b>Ventura County</b>   |
| <b>TOTAL= \$286 million</b> | Provides safe, efficient, reliable and affordable transportation services, utilizing vans and buses, to agricultural workers commuting to/from worksites in rural areas statewide. Grants are awarded to counties.  |

## **"The Healthy Seniors Act of 2008" Announced by Assemblymember Nava and the California Senior Legislature**

Passes Two Key Assembly Committees



*Nava's legislation would provide much needed funds to protect our seniors.*

**Sacramento** – Assemblymember Pedro Nava announced that AB 1900, the Healthy Seniors Act of 2008 passed the Assembly Public Safety Committee and the Assembly Judiciary Committee. The Healthy Seniors Act of 2008 will increase fines for the abuse of seniors. That increase will help fund community services for seniors.

"I am pleased to be working with the California Senior Legislature on this measure," said Nava. "Criminals who target our parents and grandparents will be sent a strong message, that we no longer tolerate elder abuse. By increasing the fines and creating this fund, we will be able to give the community more tools to address problems that deeply affect the health and well being of our seniors."

Joseph A. Cox, Chair of the Joint Rules Committee of the California Senior Legislature said, "Our organization represents close to 4 million seniors. We are proud to sponsor The Healthy Seniors Act with Assemblymember Pedro Nava. This bill will really help seniors especially in the areas of elder abuse and healthful living. We are proud to support of this bill."

The Healthy Seniors Act of 2008 will establish the Healthy Seniors Fund that will distribute monies through the counties for programs that provide services to seniors, such as food deliveries, elder abuse intervention and identity theft prevention.

Funding for the Healthy Seniors Act will come from a 10% penalty assessment for elder abuse and from a fee of up to \$3 dollars that local county board of supervisors can assess at their discretion on death certificates.

AB 1900 will better enable local communities to address the needs of our parents and grandparents.

## **Earth Day 2006: Help Preserve Our Beautiful Planet**

According the State Department of Conservation, Californians buy 18.2 billion aluminum cans and of those, 12.8 billion are recycled. Californians are great at recycling, but we could do more. During this month, do some spring-cleaning and recycle electronic components that you no longer use or no longer function-otherwise known as "e-waste." Some of these electronic components have harmful chemicals like lead and mercury that could harm young children or if in a landfill, can seep into our groundwater basins. Below are facilities in your area that will recycle not only your "e-waste," but all types of household hazardous waste, including paint, car batteries, and cleaning chemicals:

### **Ventura County**

**Del Norte Recycling Center** – 111 South Del Norte Boulevard, Oxnard,  
Phone: (805) 385-8060

**Gold Coast Recycling Center**- 5275 Colt Street, Ventura, (805) 642-9236

### **Santa Barbara County**

**South Coast and Transfer Station Recycling**- 4430 Calle Real, Santa Barbara, (805) 681-4345

**Community Hazardous Waste Collection Center**- Mesa Road, Building 565  
on campus of University of California at Santa Barbara, Goleta, (805) 963-0583, ext. 104 or 105





## Assemblymember Nava Welcomes Community Groups to Capitol

**Sacramento** – Last month, four community organizations from the 35<sup>th</sup> Assembly District, the Ventura County Leadership Academy (VCLA), Oxnard Academic Decathlon Team, the Oxnard Police Activities League (OPAL), and the Santa Barbara Police Activities League (SBPAL) visited the State Capitol and met with Assemblymember Nava.

The VCLA, founded in 1994, is an initiative of United Way of Ventura County. The purpose of VCLA is to create opportunities to develop leaders who will enhance the quality of life in Ventura County. The group was in Sacramento to learn about state government and special interest groups.

The Ventura County Academic Decathlon is a unique opportunity for high school students in Ventura County to compete against like teams of students countywide. The top teams then go on to the state competition. Oxnard High School placed 13 out of 55 at the state competition! A California team then participates in the United States Academic Decathlon which is the premier scholastic competition for students in America from both public and private high schools.

The Oxnard Police Activities League (PAL) and the Santa Barbara Police Activities League visited the State Capitol and were able to meet with Assemblymember Pedro Nava during his first meeting as Chair of Banking and Finance Committee. They were also honored with certificates and were able to visit on the Assembly Floor. High School participants were selected for "The Sacramento Experience" based on their outstanding GPA, school attendance, and overall participation with PAL.

PAL is a part of the National Association of Police Athletics/Activities League and California Police Activities League. This organization was funded to promote the relationship between police departments and the youth in their community.

"It is always a pleasure to be visited by people from home. I was so honored to be able to meet and host these community groups in our State Capitol," said Mr. Nava. "These folks showcase the leadership and vitality of our communities."



*Santa Barbara and Oxnard PALs*



*Ventura County Leadership Academy*



*Oxnard Decathlon Team*

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